

BYU 87-88

WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS





Heidi Radoff

OUTLOOK

When BYU's women gymnasts set their goals for the 1987-88 season, they aimed high. "We want to finish in the top two of the conference, qualify for regionals, and make the NCAA championships," says co-coach Rodney Hill. "With the talent, coaching staff, and facilities available to this year's squad, we feel these are realistic goals."

The talent comes from 10 top gymnasts: seniors **Melissa Friesen** and **Gina Hansen**; juniors **Jenny Cardoza**, **Lori Cragun**, and **Sonja Leider**; sophomores **Wendy Hutchings**, **Heidi Radoff**, and **Beverly Snell**; and freshmen **Marianne Williams** and **Julie Bulloch**.

The coaching staff includes not only 10th-year mentors Debbie and Rodney Hill, but BYU All-American and National Team member Bob Gauthier, BYU parallel and high bars specialist Kay C Whittaker, and dancer and Carbon County youth (5-16) coach Teera Jackson.

The facilities are the new BYU gymnastics training room and the new weight room, two of the best in the nation.

With the combination of all these elements, the Hills think this could be their strongest team ever in all four events.

The Cougars should be one of the best vaulting teams in the country. Every gymnast throws either a lay-out Tsukahara, a hand spring front, or a full-on, full-off. All these vaults are worth 9.8 to 10.0.

The uneven bars, the strongest event for the Cougars last year, should be even better this year. The Cougars are doing elite level release moves like front flips out of giant swings.

Consistency on the beam has been a problem for the Cougars over the last few years but that should be cleared up by a new training system and an early start on learning routines.

The floor exercise will feature higher level tumbling skills than ever before with all the gymnasts doing double backs (some piked) and double fulls. There will also be a stronger emphasis on choreography.

"We started earlier and are working harder this year," says Debbie Hill. "We're in the best shape we've ever been in. I look at the team this year and I see not just gymnasts but true athletes."

Those athletes are capable of achieving some very lofty goals.



Melissa Friesen

HEAD COACHES DEBBIE AND RODNEY HILL

Now in their tenth season at BYU, nationally recognized coaches **Debbie and Rodney Hill** have consistently built top collegiate teams by emphasizing teamwork while developing individual talent.

Debbie L. Hill was one of the United States' most successful gymnasts in the early 1970s. A five-year member of the U.S. national team, she was Colorado State All-Around Champion from 1969 to 1970. In 1972 she was a member of the U.S. Olympic team along with new BYU men's gymnastics coach Makoto Sakamoto. Debbie was the first American to compete against Nadia Comaneci, Nelli Kim, and Olga Korbut.

From 1961 to 1968, Rodney's teams won seven straight Nevada State Gymnastics Team Championships. He helped coach the 1970 World Games Team, was vaulting coach of the 1972 U.S. Olympic Team, and was assistant coach of the 1973 Pre-World Games Team. From 1972 to 1976 Rodney was a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee and the U.S.G.F. Women's Technical Committee. He was an assistant coach of the 1975 Pan American Games Team, the 1975 Pre-Olympic Team, and manager-coach of the 1976 U.S. Olympic Team.

In 17 years of coaching, Debbie and Rodney have produced 20 national and junior world champions—nine of whom Debbie personally coached on the beam and free exercise.

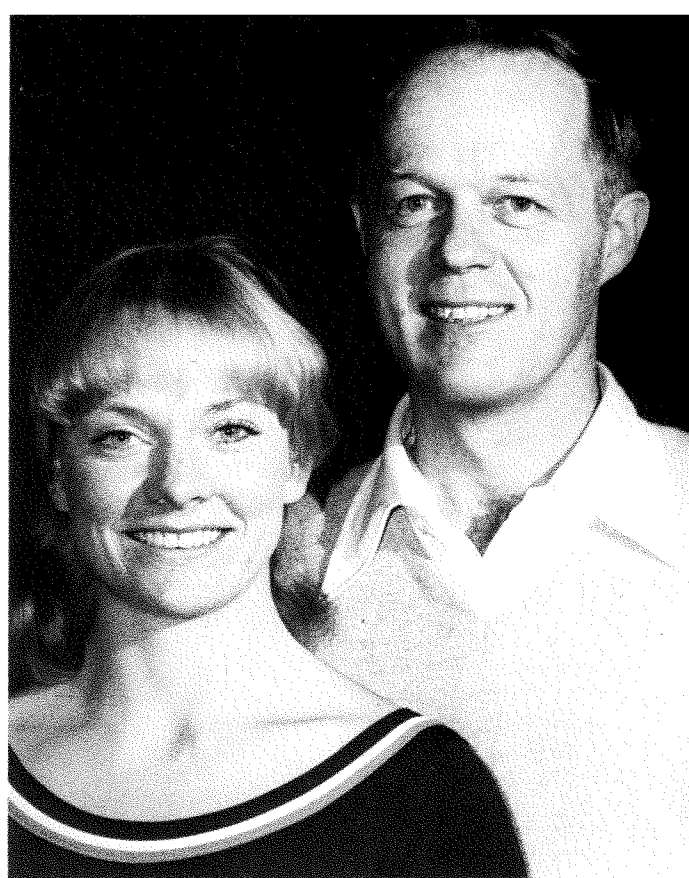
Their Hills Angels (Denver School of Gymnastics for Girls) won the U.S. Junior National Championship in 1973 and the Senior National Championship in 1974. From 1972 to 1978 their Class I teams were the overall champions for four years and second for two years.

The Hills guided the Cougars to three top 10 finishes in the AIAW (6th in 1982, 10th in 1981, and 7th in 1980).

In 1983 and 1985 BYU was selected for NCAA regional competition. In 1987 the Cougars had a Regional Qualifying Score of over 180 and three gymnasts were given at-large berths in the NCAA Midwest Region.

Under the Hills, the Cougars have taken tours of South America; England, West Germany, and Hungary; and Australia and New Zealand.

BYU was the first collegiate team from the United States to compete in a Socialist country.



Debbie and Rodney Hill

ASSISTANT COACH BOB GAUTHIER

First-year assistant coach **Bob Gauthier** coaches floor exercise and tumbling skills. In 1985, while competing for BYU, Bob was named NCAA All-America for placing fourth in still rings and seventh in all-around at the NCAA Championships. He is currently a member of the U.S. National Team and has competed in Japan, Russia, and Austria. A native of Clinton, Massachusetts, Bob is married to Lori Olson.



Bob Gauthier

ASSISTANT COACH KAY C WHITTAKER

A native of Portland, Oregon, **Kay C Whittaker** is in his first year as an assistant coach for the women's team. A 1986 WAC champion on parallel bars, Kay C coaches the uneven bars. Last year he coached under Mark Lee at Rocky Mountain Gymnastics.

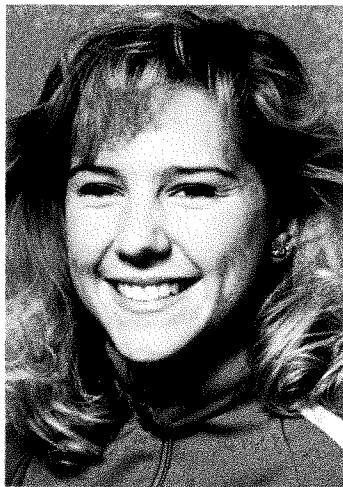


Kay C Whittaker

ASSISTANT COACH TEERA JACKSON

Teera Jackson is volunteering her expertise to help in the choreography of beam and floor routines. She is a native of Price, Utah, and has coached the Carbon County Gymdandies Gymnastics Club for six years.

TEAM PROFILES



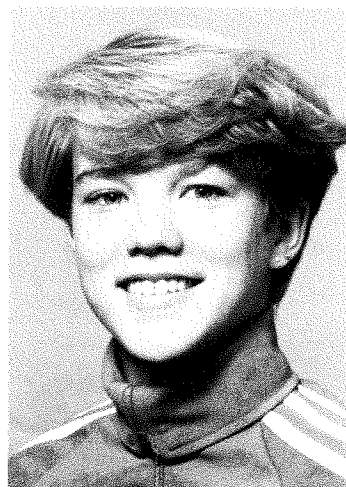
JULIE BULLOCH: 5-1 freshman from Mesa, Arizona, major undeclared . . . a walk on . . . in 1985 was USGF Arizona State advanced optional all-around champion . . . in 1986 won the all-around of the Sweetheart Invitational, was 4th in the USGF Arizona State Class I all-around, and a Western Regional qualifier.

Coaches' Comments: Julie is a gymnast with tremendous charisma . . . this will be a preparation year . . . will be strong next year.



JENNY CARDOZA: 5-2½ junior from Kaneohe, Hawaii, major undeclared . . . in 1984 finished 7th in vault and 17th in all-around at the USGF sectionals . . . in 1986 was among BYU's top five on balance beam, uneven bars, and all-around . . . in 1987 was among top five in vault and floor exercise.

Coaches' comments: Jenny will give us a strong layout Tsukahara vault and depth in the all-around this year.



LORI CRAGUN: 5-4¼ junior from Manassas, Virginia, majoring in pre physical therapy . . . a walk on . . . in 1985 was high school district champion on bars and floor, and 6th in the state on bars . . . in 1987 tied BYU top vault score (9.40) . . . 1985 and 1986 HCAC and Cougar Club Academic Athlete.

Coaches' comments: Lori will go all-around this year with special strength in vault and bars.



WENDY HUTCHINGS: 5-4 sophomore from Mapleton, Utah, major undeclared . . . in 1986 was 6th in all-around at the USGF Utah State Class I championships; 8th on floor at 20th in all-around at the Western Regionals . . . in 1987 set a BYU record (9.65) on the uneven bars and was among BYU's top five in vault.

Coaches' comments: Wendy throws the most powerful layout Tsukahara we have ever seen . . . a superior bars worker.



GINA HANSEN: 5-7½ senior from Carmichael, California, majoring in commercial P.E. . . . in 1985 won the all-around title in her first five dual meets . . . in 1986 led BYU in scoring in all events including all-around, set a school record (9.60) on floor exercise, and was All-HCAC . . . in 1987 tied for top vault score (9.40) . . . 1986 Cougar Club Academic Athlete.

Coaches' comments: Gina should finish her career in the best condition ever . . . our most consistent all-arounder.



WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS



SONJA LIEDER: 5-4 junior from Reno, Nevada, majoring in commercial P.E. . . in 1983 was USGF Western Regional floor exercise champion . . . in 1986 and 1987 was among BYU's top five in all events including all-around . . . in 1987 finished 27th (35.55) in the NCAA Midwest Regionals.

Coaches' comments: Sonja goes into her third year as one of our most consistent gymnasts . . . we look for more of the same.



HEIDI RADOFF: 4-10 sophomore from Beverly Hills, California, major undeclared . . . in 1986 was California State Class I champion on bars and finished 6th in all-around at International Macabain Games . . . in 1987 was among BYU top five in bars, beam and floor and had the second highest bars score (9.50).

Coaches' comments: Heidi is "miss excitement" . . . has improved in all events . . . will go all-around this season.



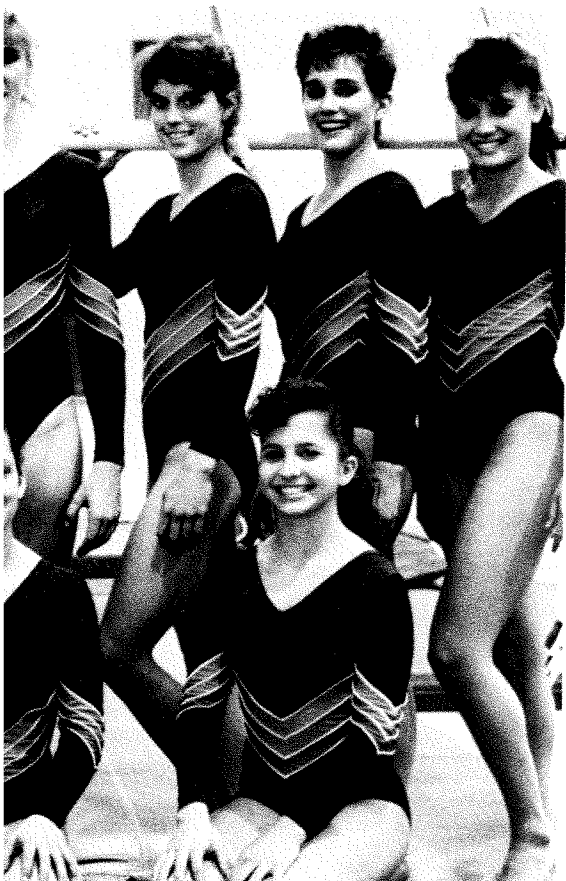
BEVERLY SNELL: 5-5 sophomore from Kaysville, Utah, majoring in pre physical therapy . . . in 1986 was second in the State in Class I vault . . . in 1987 had best BYU beam score (9.40), tied for best vault score (9.40) and all-around score (37.00), and finished 21st (36.15) in NCAA Midwest Regionals . . . 1987 HCAC and Cougar Club Academic Athlete.

Coaches' comments: Bev should come into her own this season . . . has a fantastic layout Tsukahara and has improved on all events.



MARIANNE WILLIAMS: 5-2 freshman from Highland, Utah, major undeclared . . . 1986 and 1987 USGF Utah State Class I All-Around Champion . . . 1987 Region I All-Around Champion . . . 1986 Junior Olympic National Beam Champion and 1987 Floor Exercise Champion . . . led her region team to two straight second place national finishes.

Coaches' comments: Marianne brings national experience to the team . . . a very strong all-arounder.



MELISSA FRIESEN: 5-2 senior from Aurora, Nebraska, majoring in business management . . . in 1986 and 1987 was among BYU's top five in all events including all-around . . . in 1987 tied for high BYU all-around score (37.00), had high floor total (9.55), and finished 25th (35.65) at the 1987 NCAA Midwest Regional . . . 1984, 1985, and 1986 HCAC and Cougar Club Academic Athlete.

Coaches' comments: Melissa brings consistency and experience to the team . . . a very strong all-arounder.



ROSTER

Name	Height	Age	Class	Events	Hometown
Julie Bulloch	5-1	18	Fr.	A-A	Mesa, AZ
Jenny Cardoza	5-2½	19	Jr.	A-A	Kaneohe, HI
Lori Cragun	5-4	20	Jr.	A-A	Manassas, VA
Melissa Friesen	5-2	20	Sr.	A-A	Aurora, NE
Gina Hansen	5-7½	21	Sr.	A-A	Carmichael, CA
Wendy Hutchings	5-4	19	So.	A-A	Mapleton, UT
Sonja Lieder	5-4½	20	Jr.	A-A	Reno, NV
Heidi Radoff	4-10	19	So.	A-A	Beverly Hills, CA
Beverly Snell	5-5	19	So.	A-A	Kaysville, UT
Marianne Williams	5-2	18	Fr.	A-A	Alpine, UT

Coaches: Debbie and Rodney Hill (10th year)

Career Record: 82-45-1

Assistant Coaches: Bob Gauthier, Kay C Whittaker, Teera Jackson (1st year)

1985-86 Overall Record: 8-8

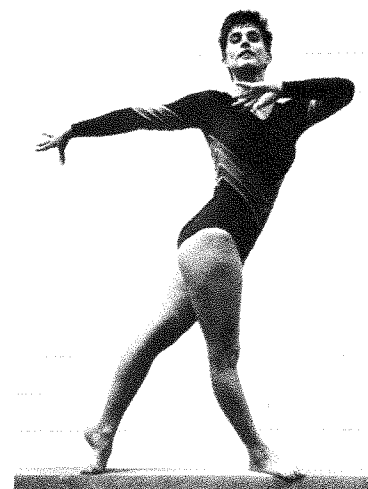
Husky Classic: 4th

Cactus Classic: 5th

New Hampshire Invitational: 4th

HCAC Championships: 4th

Gina Hansen



Wendy Hutchings



Beverly Snell



Lori Cragun



Sonja Lieder

SCHOOL FACTS

Location: Provo, Utah, Population 81,000, 45 miles south of Salt Lake City
Founded: October 16, 1875, by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Enrollment: 26,900
President: Jeffrey R. Holland
Provost: Jae R. Ballif
Dean of the College of Physical Education: Clayne R. Jensen
Athletic Director: Lu Wallace
Assistant Athletic Director: Ann Valentine
Athletic Trainer: Earlene Durrant
Associate Athletic Trainer: Gaye Merrill
Team Physician: Virginia S. Armstrong, M.D.
Conference: High Country Athletic
National Affiliation: NCAA Division I
Nickname: Cougars
Colors: Royal Blue and White
Sports Information Director: Ellen A. Larsen, Office: (801) 378-4908;
 Home: (801) 377-7087
Sports Photographer: Mark Philbrick
Coaches: *Debbie and Rodney Hill*, Office (801) 378-4769

SCHEDULE

Date	Day	Opponent/event	Site	Time
Jan. 16	Sat	Minnesota, Arizona Utah State	Provo*	7:00
Jan. 22	Fri	Cal State Fullerton	Fullerton, CA	7:00
Jan. 23	Sat	Denver	Provo	7:00
Jan. 30	Sat	Seattle Pacific	Provo	7:00
Feb. 13	Sat	Nebraska	Lincoln, NE	7:00
Feb. 19	Fri	Utah State	Provo	7:00
Feb. 27	Sat	Oregon State	Provo	7:00
March 5	Sat	Denver	Denver, CO	7:00
March 7	Mon	Utah State	Logan	7:00
March 12	Sat	Shanico Invitational	Corvallis, OR	7:00
March 26	Sat	HCAC Championships	Logan	7:00
April 9	Sat	NCAA Regionals	Norman, OK	5:00
April 22-23	Fri-Sat	NCAA Championships	Salt Lake City	TBA

*Marriott Center

All other home meets in Smith Fieldhouse



Jenny Cardoza



Marianne Williams



Julie Bulloch

